

held extended to hold the loops until later in the tufting cycle.

12. (New) The method claimed in claim 3, further characterized in that the loopers are held extended to hold the loops until later in the tufting cycle.

13. (New) The method claimed in claim 10, further characterized in that the loopers are held extended to hold the loops until later in the tufting cycle.

14. (New) The method claimed in claim 1, 2, 8 or 9, further characterized in that the hooks are held extended to hold the loops until later in the tufting cycle.

15. (New) The method claimed in claim 3, further characterized in that the hooks are held extended to hold the loops until later in the tufting cycle.

16. (New) The method claimed in claim 10, further characterized in that the hooks are held extended to hold the loops until later in the tufting cycle.

17. (New) The method claimed in claim 1, 2, 8 or 9, further characterized in that the knives are advanced to cut the loops at a point where the loops always have the same length.

18. (New) The method claimed in claim 3, further characterized in that the knives are advanced to cut the loops at a point where the loops always have the same length.

19. (New) The method claimed in claim 10, further characterized in that the knives are advanced to cut the loops at a point where the loops always have the same length.

20. (New) The method claimed in claim 11, further characterized in that the knives are advanced to cut the loops at a point where the loops always have the same length.

21. (New) The method claimed in claim 12, further characterized in that the knives are advanced to